

Rural Water District No. 1
Ellsworth County, Kansas a/k/a Post Rock Rural Water District
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024

At 6:39 pm Chairman Bland called the meeting to order and called for roll call.

Directors present at roll call: Director Bland, Director Robbins, Director Wehrman, Director Griffith, Director Teppe, Director Dolezal, and Director Splitter were present. Director Christy was absent.

Staff present: Jon Wright, Angela Naegele, and Roxanne Stevenson

Others present: Leslee Rivarola (consultant), Representative from H & B Communications, and John Reimer (Viking Industrial Painting)

Chairman Bland called for public comment. No public comment was presented.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to approve the agenda, and requested to add District boundaries, grants, and an update on the 281 Highway Project to the agenda. Director Dolezal moved to approve the agenda with the additional items. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for any discussion on the minutes from the November 19, 2024 regular board meeting. No discussion or revisions were offered. Director Griffith motioned to approve the minutes for November 19, 2024 as presented. Director Robbins seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda the bills to be paid and the District's expense report. Director Griffith asked if there was a way to get a summary of what is paid by company per month. Discussion followed. Director Griffith motioned to approve the bills to be paid and accounts payable in the amount of \$102,051.75. Director Robbins seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for discussion on the addition of security services with H & B Communications. A representative from H & B Communications provided an overview of services and the cost per month per device. Discussion followed regarding cost, virus protection, monitoring against malicious attacks. Mr. Wright brought up a nearby agency that had been a victim of a cyber security attack. There was additional discussion regarding the cost of \$10/device per month, and the frequency of backups and monitoring. Following discussion, Director Griffith motioned to add the additional protection at \$10/month per device effective January 1, 2025. Director Splitter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for discussion on the updated proposal from Viking Industries. Mr. Reimer with Viking Industries provided an overview of the revised proposal. Instead of a full

services maintenance program, Viking has prepared a defined maintenance service program. Discussion among the board followed, including discussion on the termination language. It was discussed the termination language allows for a 30 day notice of termination. Mr. Wright noted that the District's legal counsel, Todd Luckman has reviewed the agreement. Discussion regarding Kansas Rural Water Association and other district's with similar agreements followed. There was significant discussion on the price and term of the agreement; whether an agreement was necessary; and KDHE inspection and reporting requirements. In response to questions on how to pay for the agreement, Mr. Wright identified the system improvement line-item budget as a source for payment. Discussion followed on the structure of payments, including paying on a quarterly basis. Director Robbins motioned to approve the defined maintenance agreement with Viking Industries with payments on a quarterly basis. Director Griffith seconded the motion. Director Wehrman voted against the motion. The motion passed.

At 8:03 pm Chairman Bland called for a 10-minute break.

At 8:13 pm Chairman Bland reconvened the meeting.

Chairman Bland called for discussion on the added agenda item, boundary areas for rural water districts. Discussion regarding an article in the most recent KRWA publication written by Gary Hansen of Stumbo Hansen Law Firm. Discussion regarding the previous discussions with the City of Bunker Hill and their project to connect and blend water with a different provider. Discussion followed with Mr. Wright indicating he would follow up on the item.

Chairman Bland called for discussion regarding grant opportunities. Mr. Wright provided a summary of efforts and opportunities to the Board. Discussion followed. Mr. Wright shared that he would continue to explore opportunities for grants on behalf of the District.

Chairman Bland called for discussion regarding the 281 Highway project reimbursement. Discussion on the status of the reimbursement and the amount of the reimbursement followed. It was discussed the staff person who was originally responsible for the project was no longer with the District, and that it has been a challenge to locate the necessary documentation. Staff is continuing to work on collecting documents for reimbursement. It was estimated that the total is \$143,000, and the original estimate was \$82,000.

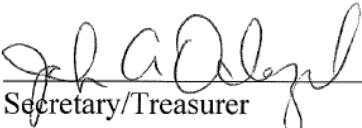
The Board asked for an update on gallons of water sold to PureField Ingredients. Discussion followed. Following discussion, the Board of Directors requested the General Manager to research and provide a recommendation on rate increases for the Board to consider. A resolution to establish or modify rates will follow once the Board has an opportunity to review a recommended rate.

Chairman Bland noted there was no attorney's report.

Chairman Bland called for the General Manager's report. Mr. Wright provided a summary of the General Manager's report. Mr. Wright is working on a revised agreement with Mr. Luckman for Wilson and Company to perform a new hydraulic study for the District. Mr. Wright provided an update on the pump replacement and issues that have come up with previous vendors regarding pumps. Mr. Wright is continuing to work on getting pricing for pump replacements. Mr. Wright provided an update on the clarifier drive.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. At 9:34 pm Director Griffith motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Dolezal seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted:


Secretary/Treasurer

1-21-25
Date